The International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law is happy to send you this e-Newsletter. Below you will find details of our most recent events and links to our website and Twitter pages for more information. French, and Arabic versions of the below are available forthcoming.


Message from the Executive Secretary

Since our last newsletter, we have started with the implementation of the 2018 IIJ workplan and I am glad to send you this first newsletter of 2018 highlighting several important initiatives implemented with a variety of partners.

Please take a minute to look at the summary of events in Africa and the Middle East below. Many more activities are to come with three different programs ongoing in parallel as I am writing these sentences.

The IIJ team continues to promote our mission and we are building on the comparative advantage of the IIJ, being the only Rule of Law institution primarily focused on working with practitioners also relying on the partnership of the 30 like-minded Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) members.

After 4 years over 3,000 judges, prosecutors, law enforcement, correction officials and other justice sector stakeholders participated in our events advocating for effective counterterrorism policy based on legal principles and turning words (GCTF Memoranda) into action.

Our next meeting of the Governing Board of Administrators is planned for late April in Valletta, Malta, and will focus on our future sustainability strategy, and begin the process to identify an advisory board to help us look towards further strategic direction. We recognize that training is not always enough – and we will continue to collaborate to match the IIJ’s practitioner network with the financial resources to improve the human and knowledge
As a call for action, English is often not the working language in the regions we work and we welcome French and Arabic experts and instructors self-identified from the region who are equipped with the tools to create change in the country. As an incubator of ideas, our team seeks to always move the effort beyond workshops, and to find even more practical ways to leverage the power of our multilateral and national efforts. Please enjoy our recent and upcoming highlights and we look forward to working further together.

Thomas Wuchte  
IIJ Executive Secretary

IIJ Conducted the MENA Regional Workshop as part of the Initiative Implementing the GCTF’s Neuchâtel Memorandum on Juvenile Justice in a Counterterrorism Context  
February 27 - March 01, 2018, Malta, Valletta

Thirty five juvenile justice and counterterrorism practitioners convened at the IIJ for the second regional workshop designed to assist with the operationalization of the GCTF’s Neuchâtel Memorandum on Juvenile Justice in a Counterterrorism Context. Group exercises based on a toolkit specifically developed to better familiarize participants with the GCTF’s Neuchâtel Memorandum were facilitated by six experts...Read More

For more information on this event, please email IIJ Program Manager Valerio de Divitiis

Focused and integrated use of intelligence to complement and develop evidence relating to Cross border and Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters  
February 05 - March 01, 2018, Amman, Jordan / Tunis, Tunisia

A four-day training and development programme, based on an investigative case study, was delivered in Jordan and Tunisia during February 2018. The course was designed to draw out GCTF ‘Good Practices’ in relation to ‘Cross-Border and Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters’ through the use of a realistic evolving case study... Read more

For more information on this event, please email IIJ Senior Advisor Joe Connell
Prevention and Intervention Workshop: Initiative to Address Homegrown Terrorism
January 31 - February 01, 2018, Valletta, Malta

The IIJ hosted the first of two practitioner workshops under the Global Counterterrorism Forum’s (GCTF) Initiative to Address Homegrown Terrorism, co-led by Morocco and the United States in coordination with the IIJ... Read more

For more information on this event, please email IIJ Program Manager Allison Curtis

GCTF Criminal Justice and Rule of Law (CJ-ROL) Working Group – Eighth Plenary Meeting
January 29-30, 2018, Valletta, Malta

The IIJ was pleased to host the Eighth Plenary Meeting of the GCTF Criminal Justice and Rule of Law Working Group (CJ-ROL) Working Group and the first under new co-chairs, Nigeria and Switzerland. The primary aim of the Plenary Meeting was to endorse a Work Plan that will guide the activities of the Working Group over the next two years... Read more

For more information on this event, please email IIJ Program Manager Soufiane El Hamdi
IIJ Capacity Building for Judges in the Sahel/West Africa
January 16-18, 2018, Cotonou, Benin

The IIJ held a regional workshop with the support of the Government of Canada for judges who handle terrorism cases from West Africa and the Sahel region. The training workshop was tailored to improve judicial capacity to effectively and equitably handle terrorism-related cases by reinforcing judges’ knowledge of international best practices... Read more

For more information on this event, please email IIJ Program Manager Soufiane El Hamdi

IIJ Capacity-Building Program for Prosecutors in the Southern Mediterranean

The IIJ held a four-day workshop for Prosecutors and Investigating Magistrates from the Southern Mediterranean region the workshop focused on the GCTF best practices for the improved handling of terrorism cases and development of prosecution strategies... Read more

For more information on this event, please email IIJ Program Manager Soufiane El Hamdi
Global Central Authorities Initiative (GCAI): Horn of Africa Regional Workshop
December 05-07, 2017, Valletta, Malta

The IIJ convened the third of four regional workshops aimed at developing a set of good practices for Central Authorities under the IIJ’s Global Central Authorities Initiative, launched in 2015 with generous support from the United States. Practitioners discussed the ten draft good practices, shared experiences, and provided input on the steps needed to create durable Central Authorities capable of facilitating effective and efficient cooperation and mutual legal assistance among international partners... Read more

For more information on this event, please email IIJ Program Manager Allison Curtis

Also in the region

See IIJ’s newest EU funded tool to assist judges in the Horn of Africa region adjudicate terrorism cases while respecting human rights and the rule of law.
The Role of Psychologists and Religious Leaders in Rehabilitation and Reintegration in Kosovo
November 29 - December 01, 2017, Pristina, Kosovo

IIJ Introduces the Role of Psychologists and Religious Leaders in Rehabilitation and Reintegration in Kosovo. The workshop, part of a key RFTF IIJ initiative, highlighted the critical role religious leaders and psychologist can and should have... Read more

For more information on this event, please email IIJ Program Manager Monique Kamies

GCTF-IIJ Initiative to Address Homegrown Terrorism Launch Event
November 15-16, 2017, Valletta, Malta

The IIJ was proud to host the launch of the Global Counterterrorism Forum’s (GCTF) Initiative to Address Homegrown Terrorism, co-led by Morocco and the United States in coordination with the IIJ. Seventy representatives from 25 countries and 13 organizations convened in Malta for the launch of this new initiative... Read more

For more information on this event, please email IIJ Program Manager Allison Curtis
Looking ahead

- Trinidad & Tobago, March: Investigative Program: Focused and Integrated Use of Intelligence to Complement and Develop Evidence Relating to Cross Border Foreign Terrorist Fighters
- Malta, March: IIJ Parliamentarians Initiative: The Nexus of Parliamentarians and Criminal Justice Actors in Counter Terrorism - Regional Workshop
- Chad, March: IIJ RFTF Initiative: In-Country Collaboration
- Morocco, March: IIJ Judicial Program: Capacity-Building for Judges in the Sahel/West Africa – Study Visit to the Appeal Court
- Mali, March: IIJ RFTF Initiative: In-Country Collaboration
- Nigeria, April: IIJ Prison Management Initiative: Workshop on Counterterrorism Prison Intelligence

Please contact info@theiij.org for further details.